



Department of Justice

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ANDERSON MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO RECEIVING CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – John F. Wood, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that an Anderson, Mo., man pleaded guilty in federal court today to receiving child pornography over the Internet.

Quentin Venter, 33, of Anderson, pleaded guilty before U.S. Magistrate Judge James C. England this morning to the charge contained in a May 7, 2008, federal indictment.

Venter admitted that he received child pornography over the Internet between Jan. 8 and Aug. 10, 2007.

Law enforcement officers executed a search warrant at Venter's residence on Aug. 16, 2007, and seized a desktop computer that was located in a bedroom and a laptop computer that was located in a bathroom. Analysts found 46 images and 69 video files of child pornography during a forensic examination of the laptop computer. There were also 12 video files of child pornography on the desktop computer. Some of the videos and images depict prepubescent victims as well as sadistic, masochistic and violent acts.

Venter admitted that he used his wife's credit card to purchase access to Internet Web sites containing child pornography and that he subscribed to two or three Web sites containing child pornography.

By pleading guilty today, Venter also agreed to forfeit to the government a Toshiba laptop computer and a Dell Dimension 4550, which were used to commit the offense.

Under federal statutes, Venter could be subject to a mandatory minimum sentence of five years in federal prison without parole, up to 20 years in federal prison without parole, plus a fine up to \$250,000. A sentencing hearing will be scheduled after the completion of a presentence investigation by the United States Probation Office.

This case is being prosecuted by Supervisory Assistant U.S. Attorney Michael S. Oliver. It was investigated by the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, the Missouri State Technological Assistant Team (STAT) and the McDonald County, Mo., Sheriff's Department.

Project Safe Childhood

This case is being brought as part of Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative designed to protect children from online exploitation and abuse. Led by the United States Attorneys Offices, Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state and local resources to better locate, apprehend, and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the Internet, as well as identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit www.projectsafechildhood.gov/.

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